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SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH

2659 South Chipley Ford Rd.
Statesville, NC 28625-8712

SouthRiverBaptist.com

Periodical

JANUARY 2026

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Chris Thompson, Senior Pastor

Rev. Scott Townsell, Pastor for Missions & Families

Rev. Tony Craver, Church Administrator

Dr. Alton Cook, Pastor for Congregational Health

Timothy Clendenin, Children's Ministry Associate

Wynston Lyles, Worship Ministry Associate

Kim Williams, IT Support & Headwaters Administrator

Heather Melton, Ministry Assistant

704-876-1520

980-829-3163

704-397-6965

336-707-2886

704-928-9882

336-830-1670

704-881-1459

704-876-1520

EACH SUNDAY

8:15 AM Morning Worship

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Morning Worship

5:30 PM GROW Students/Kids

6:00 PM Evening Worship

EACH WEDNESDAY

6:40 PM GROW Students/Kids

7:00 PM Prayer Service/GROW

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SOUTH RIVER
BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 26, Number 5

CURRENTS

January 2026

2026 SERMON SERIES

WE BELIEVE

A Study of Theological Essentials

SouthRiverBaptist.com

2659 S. Chipley Ford Road, Statesville NC 28625 | Phone (704) 876-1520

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear South River Church Family,

A new year is upon us and that means new opportunities for those who walk by faith! These new beginnings are exciting to discover what God is doing in our life and around us. Here are some awesome opportunities to experience God's goodness and grow in His grace.

First, be committed to join us each Sunday morning for corporate worship as we learn Theological Essentials for the Christian faith. Paul warns that in the end times there will be those who do not want sound doctrine and instead opt for entertainment that tickles the ears. Resolve that will not be you! Discover and establish a sound plumb line of biblical doctrine you help you navigate life.

I want to encourage everyone to be here on Sunday evening, January 25, for our quarterly Church Ministry Meeting. I will be sharing the "State of Our Church" and the opportunities before us in 2026. We will hear about the strategic objectives for our ministry at South River and in our community and how that relates to our ministries, staffing, facilities, finances, and objectives.

I believe 2026 will be an exciting time to see the Lord's hand move in our church and community. Begin praying how God use you in ministry at South River and to our surrounding community. May God use these opportunities to mature our faith and enable us to spread the gospel abroad.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris

PRE-SCHOOL

SUNDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 4TH

8:15 AM Worship

Molly Townsell
Karlie Townsell

10:45 AM Worship

Heather Melton
Chely Mahler

6:00 PM Worship

Patsy Burnette
Cricket Barnette

JANUARY 11TH

8:15 AM Worship

Terry Aiken
Sharon Hobbs

10:45 AM Worship

Melanie Townsell
Keri Mankos

6:00 PM Worship

Cyndi Cook
Brenna Pence

JANUARY 18TH

8:15 AM Worship

Terry Reid
Debbie Sloan

10:45 AM Worship

Rebecca Thorpe
Cheri Horner

6:00 PM Worship

Robin Stewart
Mary Jo Frye

JANUARY 25TH

8:15 AM Worship

Addi Carter
Kelly Hill

10:45 AM Worship

Amelia Fox
Liz Deal

6:00 PM Worship

April Thompson
Heather Melton

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

JANUARY 7TH

Elizabeth Griffin
Anita Long

JANUARY 14TH

Nicky Robertson
Donna Lyons

JANUARY 21ST

Maritza Anderson
Heather Cannon

JANUARY 28TH

Tara Beatty
Amanda Meadows

GREETERS

JANUARY 4TH

8:00 AM

Brenda R. - FD
Carol S. - SP

10:30 AM

Mary K. - FD
Carol B. - SP

JANUARY 11TH

8:00 AM

Bonnie W. - FD
Cindy H. - SP

10:30 AM

Kimberly S. - FD
Kate D. - SP

JANUARY 18TH

8:00 AM

Martha M. - FD
Sandra B. - SP

10:30 AM

Bridget M. - FD
Jenna S. - SP

JANUARY 25TH

8:00 AM

Eli P. - FD
Brenda R. - SP

10:30 AM

Carole B. - FD
Mary K. - SP

GRIEF SHARE MINISTRY

Next GriefShare Class
Feb 1st - May 3rd
Sundays @ 3 pm in FLC 6



Please contact Steve Jenkins
at (980) 263-4134 for more information

NEW MEMBERS

By Letter

Joe & Danielle Moody

Justin & Stephanie Johnson, Luke, Zach & Josh

2025/26 MINISTRY BUDGET

YTD BUDGET GOALS	\$ 339,235.00
TOTAL GIVING TO DATE	\$ 367,810.81

PASTOR FOR MISSIONS & FAMILIES

Dear Church Family,

Over the past several months, God has continued to open doors for our missions ministry, and we are grateful for the ways you have faithfully supported the work through prayer, giving, and serving. We want to take a moment to share an update on what has been happening and where we are headed in the year ahead.

In recent months, our team has been actively serving through local and regional outreach efforts, helping meet tangible needs while also pointing people to the hope found in Christ. From organizing and distributing supplies to supporting ministry partners on the ground, we have seen firsthand how God uses ordinary obedience to accomplish extraordinary work.

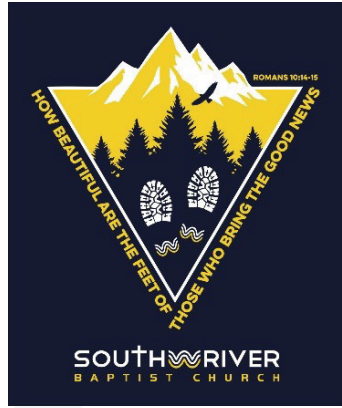
One major step forward is that our missions warehouse is now fully operational. This allows us to be more prepared, more efficient, and more responsive as needs arise. With this space in place, we are better equipped to support our existing partners and to step into new opportunities as the Lord leads.

As we look ahead, our focus remains twofold. First, we are committed to continuing strong partnerships with the ministries and organizations we already serve alongside. These relationships are vital and allow for lasting gospel impact. Second, we are prayerfully seeking to grow new partnerships so we can expand our reach—both in our community and in the surrounding areas.

Our heart is not only to meet physical needs, but also to ensure that spiritual needs are never overlooked. We want every act of service to reflect the light of the gospel, making Christ known through both word and deed.

Thank you for walking with us as we continue this work together.

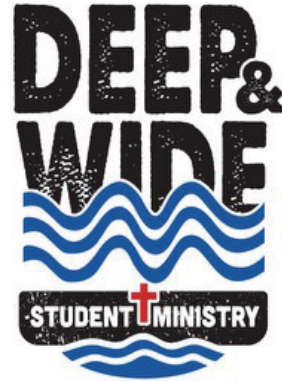
In Christ,
Pastor Scott



DEEP & WIDE YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Parents and Students,

I'm excited to share some great news with you, we've unveiled a **new logo** for our Deep & Wide Student Ministry! While the look is fresh, the heart and mission behind it remain exactly the same. The new logo simply reflects what God has called us to do: to help students **grow DEEP in the truth of God's Word and reach WIDE with the love of Christ.**



As part of this fresh look, every student has been given a T-shirt featuring the new logo. We wanted them to have something tangible that represents who they are and what they are a part of. If parents would also like to purchase one of these new shirts, they are available for **\$10**. Just let us know, we'd love for families to share in representing the Deep & Wide mission together. We will also put together an online store in January if you or your student would like to order other items.

As your student pastor, my goal has always been to **come alongside parents**, not replace them. You are the primary disciplers of **your** students, and it is our joy to partner with you as we help guide them toward a faith that is both rooted and lived out. Scripture reminds us that God's Word is "a lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (Psalm 119:105), and that we are to hide His Word in our hearts. We believe students who are grounded in Scripture are better equipped to navigate life, culture, and relationships with wisdom and discernment.

At the same time, there's no point in growing deep if we never put our faith into practice. Our desire is to teach students how to **live out what they believe**, to serve others, to love boldly, and to share Christ in both word and action. **Deep faith should always lead to wide impact.**

We are incredibly excited about what God has in store for the upcoming year. There is so much potential for growth, discipleship, and gospel-centered community, and we can't wait to walk this journey together.

A quick reminder for parents: **if you haven't registered your student for summer camp yet**, please do so as soon as possible. Camp will take place **the second week of July**, and registration is required for students to begin earning their **service hours**.

Thank you for your continued trust, prayers, and partnership. We're grateful for each of you and look forward to a great year ahead.

Grace and peace,
Scott, Student Pastor, Deep & Wide Student Ministry

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|--|
| 1 | Scotty Greene
Rylee Whitaker | 15 | Shonna Smith
Gene McCoy |
| 2 | Natalia Lyons
Bud Redmond | | Tammy MacLean |
| 3 | Kieran Wilson
Pete Jones | 16 | Harold Christy |
| 4 | Phillip Clendenin
Gabe Sherrill | 18 | Michelle Mullins |
| 5 | Stephanie Bennett | 20 | Jacob Deal |
| 6 | Rylee Wireman
Ty Templeton | | Donna Gallina |
| 7 | Isaiah Thompson
Liz Deal | 22 | Stephanie Peterson |
| 8 | Melanie Townsell | | Addi Carter |
| 10 | Matthew Kilcoyne
Sherrie Haithcox | 23 | Connie Cook
Elizabeth Griffin |
| 11 | Billie Hart | 25 | Holly Deal |
| 12 | Michael Wilhelm
Larry Johnson | | Bryan Shoemaker |
| 13 | Daniel Fisher, III
Nicolas Chege | 26 | Susan Boyd |
| 14 | Erica Barnette
Madison Burnette | 27 | Wyatt Lefever |
| | | | Jenny Mason |
| | | 28 | Corbyn Mahler
Charles Campbell
Corbyn Mull |
| | | | Hal Gibson |
| | | 29 | Nancy Snyder |
| | | 30 | James Melton
Jamin Thorpe |

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Larry & Jean Morrison |
| 5 | Allen & Teresa Stroud
Joshua & Ashley Benfield |
| 8 | Craig & Mary Morrison |
| 24 | Dan & Allaine McGee |

RIPPLEKIDZ MINISTRY

Meditating on Scripture

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but they are like chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Psalms 1:1-6

The Psalmist points out something I think most of us miss. He tells us that the righteous man doesn't just study God's Word but that he meditates on it. We can fall into the trap of substituting studying God's Word for meditating on it; and the two are distinct. The danger of studying the Bible but not meditating on it is equivalent to taking and swallowing a pill that needs to dissolve in your mouth. The result? It doesn't have its full effectiveness because you didn't let it dissolve properly. Reading and studying the Bible but not meditating is the same way. We will not grasp its full effectiveness and value, and there's a possibility it doesn't change our lives the way it should. This year, let us not only be studious in our study, but also be mindful in our meditation.

Happy New Year.

Timothy Clendenin,

Children's Ministry Associate

WORSHIP MINISTRY

RIVER WORSHIP CHOIR

4th AM Let The Church Rise
11th AM We Are United

18th AM I Will Always Sing Of The Cross
25th AM Psalm 19

PM Psalm 1: Blessed Is The Man
PM Psalm 2: Why Do The Heathen Nations Vainly Rage
PM Psalm 8: Oh Lord Our King Rejoices
PM Psalm 14: The Fool Has Said In His Heart

SPECIAL MUSIC

4th AM Sherwin Johnson
11th AM Jerry Long
18th AM Lydia Thorpe
25th AM Southern Gospel River Quartet

PM Jimmy Willaims
PM Salem-Grace Lyles
PM Belle Craver
PM River Choir

RADIO MINISTRY SCHEDULE Mon-Fri Programming

5am & 12pm (5min) Reading By The River
6:30am Love Worth Finding - Dr. Adrian Rogers
8am Running To Win - Dr. Ervin Lutzer
6pm Grace To You - Dr. John MacArthur
8pm Turning Point Daily - Dr. David Jeremiah
10pm Wretched Radio Daily - Todd Friel

Weekend Programming

Sat @ 12pm Washington Watch Weekly
Sun @ 7am Turning Point Weekend - Dr. David Jeremiah
Sun @ 8am Love Worth Finding Weekend - Dr. Adrian Rogers
Sun @ 12pm & 7pm South River Baptist Church
Sun @ 5pm Grace To You Weekend - Dr. John MacArthur

Music Genre Schedule

12am - 3am Contemporary Christian
3am - 7am Gospel
7am - 6pm Contemporary & Gospel Mix
6pm - 9pm Gospel
9pm - 12am Contemporary Christian



GROW CLASSES

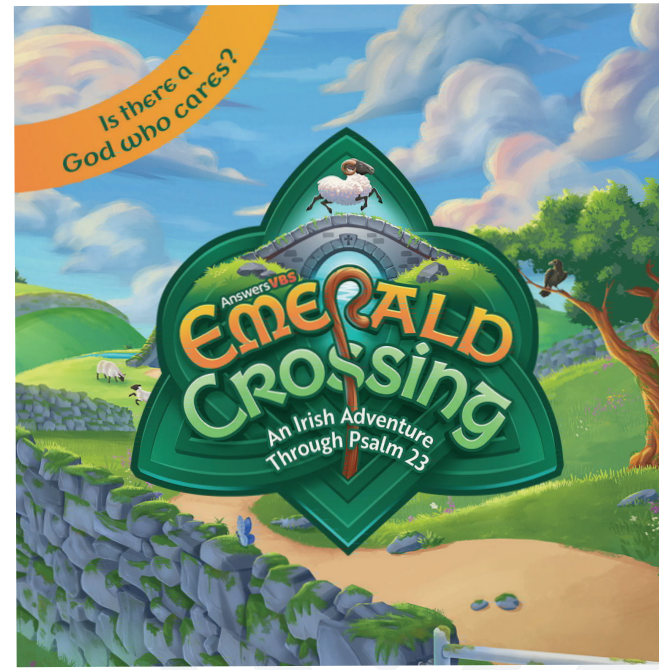
Starting January 4th

Winter/Spring Classes

*Join us as we continue
learning about who Jesus
really is*



SAVE THE DATE



**2026 VBS
MAY 31ST - JUNE 4TH**



Mark Your Calendars

February

13th - VBS Craft Night

HEADWATERS ACADEMY



HEADWATERS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
PATRIOTS

We have openings in some classes for the 2025-2026 School Year
We offer 3 day (Tue-Thu) and 5 day Pre-K (7:45 am to 11:30 am) and K-12th grade
See details online @ headwaters-academy.com

Please call if you would like additional information or to set up a tour and family interview
New students should use this link > <https://headwaters-academy.com/register-new/>

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS MINISTRY! We need help in the lunchroom, cleanup crew, teacher assistants, tutors, library, recess monitoring

If you can volunteer between 8am and 2pm Mon – Fri, we can find a place for you to serve!
Please fill out a volunteer form or contact me let us know of your interest. One or two days per week will go far to help this ministry of South River Baptist Church.

Scan to apply or contact Kim Williams for more details
at 704-881-1459 kim@southernbaptist.com; <https://headwaters-academy.com/volunteer/>



Other ways you can help support Headwaters:

>>> Download the Box Tops app and select Headwaters Christian Academy in Statesville, NC as your school, then scan your grocery receipts

>>> RaiseRight is another way to support Headwaters by purchasing gift cards that you would normally buy in stores. You can use this link to get started > <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=SM4GPS3BTGJ5>

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY



**Come & Worship:
A Study of 1st Peter**

**with
Pastor Chris**

**Wednesdays
@ 7:00 pm**

JANUARY SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

The Psalm Journey

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Psalm 1 – 1/4 | Psalm 69 – 5/10 |
| Psalm 2 – 1/11 | Psalm 73 – 5/17 |
| Psalm 8 – 1/18 | Psalm 78 – 5/24 |
| Psalm 14 – 1/25 | Psalm 84 – 5/31 |
| Psalm 19 – 2/1 | Psalm 90 – 6/7 |
| Psalm 22 – 2/8 | Psalm 91 – 6/14 |
| Psalm 23 – 2/15 | Psalm 96 – 6/21 |
| Psalm 24 – 2/22 | Psalm 100 – 6/28 |
| Psalm 27 – 3/1 | Psalm 101 – 7/5 |
| Psalm 32 – 3/8 | Psalm 103 – 7/12 |
| Psalm 34 – 3/15 | Psalm 115 – 7/19 |
| Psalm 37 – 3/22 | Psalm 119 – 7/26 |
| Psalm 39 – 3/29 | Psalm 121 – 8/2 |
| Psalm 40 – 4/5 | Psalm 128 – 8/9 |
| Psalm 42 & 43 – 4/12 | Psalm 139 – 8/16 |
| Psalm 46 – 4/19 | Psalm 145 – 8/23 |
| Psalm 55 – 4/26 | Psalm 147 – 8/30 |
| Psalm 63 – 5/3 | |

**QR Code
For Psalms
Commentary**



**QR Code
For Psalms
YouTube Playlist**



2026

JANUARY

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				Happy New Year Headwaters - No School Church Office Closed	Headwaters - No School	
				1	2	3
5:30 pm GROW Week 13	Headwaters - No School		6:40 pm GROW Week 13 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting			Archery Tournament
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
VBS Interest Mtg After AM Services 5:30 pm GROW Week 14			6:40 pm GROW Week 14 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting 8:00 pm Stewardship Mtg			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
5:30 pm GROW Week 15	Youth Tubing		6:00 pm RippleKidz Council Mtg 6:40 pm GROW Week 15 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
GROW at Home Week 16 6:00 pm Business Mtg			6:40 pm GROW Week 16 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting			Worship Appreciation Banquet
25	26	27	28	29	30	31